

FEMALE DIAGNOSTICS AND CLASSIFICATION



GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

MISSION

The Georgia Department of Corrections protects the public by operating safe and secure facilities through the development of professional staff and effective offender management.

Timothy C. Ward, Commissioner

Alan Watson, Chief of Staff

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Within the correctional system, the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) has four female state prisons, one medical facility, which houses pregnant offenders, two treatment facilities, and one probation detention center. The female offender population is Georgia's fastest-growing population. The Diagnostic facility is located at Lee Arrendale State Prison in Alto, Georgia.

DIAGNOSTICS



OVERVIEW

- Identifies all pertinent needs of an offender entering the prison system to meet those needs to prevent the offender from returning to prison
- Conducted at Lee Arrendale State Prison (LASP)

HISTORY

- LASP transitioned from a male to female facility in 2005, and remissioned as the female diagnostic facility in 2011.

OFFENDERS



POPULATION

- Diagnostic offenders arrive from the county jail
- All diagnostic inmates receive security classifications through the Next Generation Assessment (NGA) while in county jails awaiting assignment to GDC. Security classifications are close, medium, and minimum
- Diagnostic offenders receive one visitation on weekends and holidays if they have been at LASP for 60 days
- Diagnostic visitation is conducted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on holidays and quarterly, alternating Saturday and Sundays
- Diagnostic offenders usually transfer prior to being eligible for visitation, if bed space is available
- Upon transfer to their new facilities, Diagnostic inmates become permanent inmates, remaining at the new facility until they are released or administratively transferred due to medical issues, behavioral issues, or program needs

SECURITY LEVELS

CLOSE SECURITY

Have staffing and physical security measures which are designed for the offenders listed below:

- Are escape risks
- Have assault histories
- Are considered dangerous and may have detainers for other serious crimes on file
- May never work on an outside detail
- Require supervision at all times by a correctional officer



MEDIUM SECURITY

Have staffing and physical security measures which are designed for the offenders listed below:

- Have no major adjustment problems
- May work outside of the prison but must remain under supervision

MINIMUM SECURITY

Have staffing and physical security measures which are designed for the offenders listed below:

- Tend to abide by prison regulations
- Present a minimal risk of escape
- Have been judged to be a minimal threat to the community
- May work outside the fence under minimal supervision

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PROCESS

Offenders without disciplinary, medical or mental health issues usually complete the process in approximately 7-14 working days. Staffing includes a diagnostic director, correctional officers, doctors, nurses, counselors, mental health counselors, teachers, psychologists, psychiatrists and clerical support staff. All offenders are screened for security threat potential, medical condition, mental health status, educational level and treatment programs needed or ordered by the court for the inmate to complete.

INFORMATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

DAY 1

MEDICAL SCREEN

- Delouse
- Shower
- Locks received
- Hair accessories received
- Issue clothing and ID card
- Inventory property and medication

MEDICAL SCREEN

- PPD test, blood work, and vital signs, medical review

MENTAL HEALTH SCREEN/PREA ASSESSMENT

HOUSING/BED ASSIGNMENT

DAYS 3-4

PRE-PAROLE INTERVIEWS

PPD READING

MEDICAL EXAM

DAYS 5-6

DIAGNOSTIC TESTING

- Culture Fair (IQ)
- Academics: WRAT 4-Reading, Spelling and Math

DAY 2

DENTAL

- Exams

ORIENTATION

- Completion of orientation and parole forms
- Orientation videos: Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), AIDS, Right to Know
- Performance Incentive Credits (PIC)
- Diagnostic handbooks distributed
- Diagnostic testing is scheduled

DAYS 12-15

FINAL INTERVIEWS (10-15 PER DAY)

- Interviews cannot be scheduled or conducted without test completion and medical clearance of offender
- Interviews assure that all areas of offenders process are complete and to recommend custody level
- Case planning is completed